GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1821
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2006
IMPORT OF OILSEEDS
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.;Bhadana Shri Avtar Singh;Mishra Dr. Rajesh Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the oilseeds industry is the verge of closure due to the policy of import of oilseeds Nepal and Sri Lanka ;

(b) If so, the quantum of oilseeds imported during the last three years and the reasons for shortfall in oilseeds production in the country; and

(c) The reaction of the Government thereto ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) : No Sir. It is evident from the table below that import of oilseed from Nepal and Sri Lanka during the last three years has been negligible:

(quantity in Metric Tonnes)

IMPORT	Oilseeds Linseed
2003-04	918.96
2004-05	550.85
2005-06	973.1

(b) : The quantity of oilseeds imported during the year 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 was 4.7 thousand tonnes, 4.7 thousand tonnes and 9.9 thousand tones respectively. The production of major oilseeds increased from 25.18 million tones in 2003-04 to 27.43 million tones in 2005-06.

(c) : Government has introduced a number of initiatives and interventions for the enhancement of production and productivity of oilseeds under the Integrated scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM). In order to provide remunerative prices to the farmers, Government of India announces Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for oilseeds every year, with appropriate enhancement to encourage the oilseed growers.